

Legislative Reference Service

WEEK ENDING 4-13-01

NO. 4

CODE ENFORCEMENT

H-6272 HEAT DETECTORS (Barr) This act would require approved heat detectors to be placed in any attached garage. H.E.W.

H-6316 LEAD POISONING (Almeida) This act would impose more stringent requirements for abatement on owners and landlords of homes when lead is present. Judiciary

S-533 LEAD POISONING (Graziano – By Request) This act would impose more stringent requirements for abatement on owners and landlords of homes when lead is present. H.E.W.

S-716 FLOOD RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION (Gallo & Others) This act would amend provisions of the law pertaining to existing buildings, specifically the rehabilitation code and the provisions for flood resistant construction in flood hazard areas. Corporations

S-735 LEAD PAINT TAX CREDIT (Goodwin & Others) This act provides for an income tax credit for lead paint abatement and lead paint control measures in residential dwellings. Finance

S-826 LIEN FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS (Celona) This act would limit to 6 years the lien created on property for the costs incurred by building officials who make emergency repairs on unsafe buildings. Judiciary

S-871 LEAD HAZARD CONTROL (Izzo & Others) This act adopts the Lead Hazard Control Mitigation Act. The act requires owners of dwelling units constructed prior to 1978 to meet requirements for lead hazard control, provides civil liability for owners who fail to comply, requires insurance companies to provide coverage for loss or damage caused by lead poisoning, and provides a procedure for enforcement of the act. H.E.W.

EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

H-6101 SCHOOL-TO-CAREER PROGRAM (Fox & Moura) This act would provide state funding to support the state's certificate of initial mastery program. Finance

H-6113 KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE (George & Crowley) This act would change the age requirements for eligibility for attendance in kindergarten and first grade. H.E.W.

H-6124 TEXTBOOKS (Fox & Others) This act would amend the textbook statute to provide for reimbursement for the purchase of textbooks relating to English/language arts and history/social studies for students in grades 8-12 in addition to K-8. Finance

H-6130 SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS (Fleury) This act would provide that the expense of educating a special education student be the responsibility of the district where the student resided at the commencement of such fiscal year. Finance

H-6131 TRANSITIONAL BILINGUAL EDUCATION (Tejada & Others) This act would create a full-time program of instruction in transitional bilingual education. Finance

H-6145 SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS (Smith & Others) This act would require that each speech pathologist provides services to not more than 40 students. H.E.W.

H-6147 TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION (Gallison & Others) This act would require that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education accept only in-state courses on driver education offered to minors. Highway Safety

H-6190 ELIGIBILITY FOR CASH ASSISTANCE (Lima & Others) This act would require students 16 years old or older who are receiving cash assistance to have no more than 10 unexcused absences from school per quarter to maintain eligibility. H.E.W.

H-6201 RESIDENCE OF CHILDREN (Moran & Others) This act would mandate that students who change residence during a grade reporting quarter enroll and attend school in the new town of residence in the next quarter. H.E.W.

H-6212 KINDERGARTEN (Menard & Barr) This act would increase the appropriation to the full day Kindergarten investment fund. Finance

H-6213 SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS (Coderre & Others) This act would provide for the funding, development, and maintenance of school-based health centers. Finance

H-6221 SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS (Story & Others) This act would permit public secondary schools in the state to forego the receipt of federal funds to supplement the mandatory school lunch program, provided that the secondary school continue to provide the lunches to eligible students in accordance with applicable federal regulations and guidelines. H.E.W.

H-6232 PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGGING (Abdullah-Odiase) This act would prevent any school official from requiring that a child be placed on a psychotropic drug as a condition to remaining in school. It would provide penalties for violators. H.E.W.

H-6244 CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Cicilline) This act would increase from 4 to 6 the number of school charters that may be issued in school districts that have more than 20,000 students. H.E.W.

H-6250 STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS (McNamara & Others) This act would provide for continued state funding of student drug assistance programs at the public high school level for all programs that are in place and funded by the state as of July 1, 2000. Finance

H-6315 THREATS TO PUBLIC OFFICIALS (Iwuc & Others) This act would make it a felony to threaten an educator or a school employee. Judiciary

H-6318 KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE (George & Crowley) This act would change the age requirements for eligibility for attendance in kindergarten and first grade. Finance

H-6319 DRIVER'S EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS (Menard) This act would require all new driver's education instructors to have a Class B commercial driver's license. Finance

S-532 SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS (Parella & Others) This act would provide for the funding, development, and maintenance of school-based health centers. Finance

S-659 CONTROVERSIES IN SCHOOL MATTERS (Polisena & Others) This act would require the commissioner of elementary and secondary education to issue a decision within 45 days of hearing. H.E.W.

S-660 PESTICIDES IN SCHOOLS (Perry & Others – By Request) This act would create a School Pest Management Act to reduce the use of pesticides in state schools. H.E.W.

S-662 TEACHER ASSISTANTS (Gallo) This act would require teacher assistant substitutes who work more than 20 days during any school year to meet the requirements of permanent teacher assistants. H.E.W.

S-684 DRUG, ALCOHOL OR WEAPONS OFFENSES (Izzo & Others) This act would provide that public schools would impose penalties on students for possession of alcohol, drugs, or weapons, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the applicable school committee. H.E.W.

S-790 TEXTBOOKS (Walsh & Goodwin) This act would add textbooks in the fields of mathematics, science, and foreign languages for grades K-8 to the list of textbooks for which the state will provide a reimbursement to school districts for the cost of the textbooks. Finance

S-795 CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW (McCaffrey & Issa) This act would require a national background check (BCI) for any person seeking employment in a public school department. It would further require fingerprinting, and shorten the time period from 18 months to 12 months prior to application. H.E.W.

S-809 SCHOOL-TO-CAREER PROGRAM (Gallo & Others) This act would provide state funding to support the state's certificate of initial mastery program. Finance

S-849 CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (Bates & Others) This act would require that, if a special education student transfers from one school district to another during the school year, the original school district shall reimburse the second school district for all costs for educating that child. Finance

ELECTIONS

H-6196 NOMINATION PAPERS (Giannini & Others) This act would require that nomination papers, issued by the Secretary of State, be delivered personally to the candidate or to other persons designated in the act. Special Legislation

S-504 ELECTION OFFICIALS (Celona) This act would prohibit close family members of a candidate from working at the polls as election officials. Judiciary

S-571 LOCAL CANVASSING AUTHORITIES (Garabedian) This act would change all references to "bipartisan" election activity to reflect the current multi-party status in Rhode Island, and adds the "Cool Moose" party to the protected names section. This act would also change the size and composition of local canvassing authorities. Judiciary

S-572 VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS (Damiani & Others) This act would require the Secretary of State to update the central voter register every 2 years. Judiciary

S-574 POLITICAL PARTIES (Garabedian) This act would provide that any political organization that obtains the requisite 5% of the vote would qualify as a political party for the next 4 years. Judiciary

S-582 MAIL BALLOTS (Polisena & Others) This act would amend the provisions for obtaining and filing mail ballots or absentee ballots for an election. Judiciary

S-621 REDISTRICTING (Lenihan & Others) This act would establish the Rhode Island Commission on Redistricting to prepare a plan, and establishes the process of appointment and a timetable for the Commission; and it establishes standards for the Commission to apply in preparing a plan. Judiciary

S-624 STATEWIDE REFERENDA ELECTIONS (Breene & Others) This act would allow voters to argue for or against a statewide referendum. Judiciary

S-703 REGISTRATION OF VOTERS (Kells & Others) This resolution creates a 13-member special legislative commission whose purpose it shall be to study the implementation and enforcement of Chapter 17-9.1 of the General Laws entitled "Registration of Voters", and which shall report back to the General Assembly no later than February 13, 2002, and whose life shall expire on April 13, 2002. Judiciary

S-847 MAIL BALLOTS (Garabedian) This act would provide an elector the choice of voting in person or by mail ballot. Judiciary

ENVIRONMENT

H-6224 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK (Kennedy & Others) This act would make minor changes to the Underground Storage Tank Financial Responsibility Act. Corporations

H-6281 ENERGY FACILITY SITING (Lowe) This act would amend the provisions of the Energy Facility Siting Act, regarding the public notice and hearing requirements on construction projects in cities and towns affected by the Act, by requiring applicants for such projects to reimburse the city/town for all professional and legal fees incurred in the siting process, including, but not limited to, the performance of studies of the local environmental effects of the proposed facility. Corporations

H-6309 ENERGY FACILITY SITING ACT (Lowe & Others) This act would increase the amount a city/town may require a utility company to pay for studies of the effects of the proposed facility on the local environment, community and public safety related to a hearing on an application for a proposed construction project. Corporations

H-6330 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (Garvey) This act would allow town officials to designate an enforcing officer to enforce the provisions of Title 46, Chapter 12.1 "Underground Storage Tanks", and would allow cities and towns to impose record-keeping and reporting requirements on fuel suppliers. Corporations

S-551 CENTRAL LANDFILL (Garabedian & Others) This act would create a 19-member central landfill region oversight council which will work to address and correct existing landfill and recycling problems. Corporations

S-553 MUNICIPAL TIPPING FEES (Polisena & Iglioizzi) This act would increase the municipal tipping fees assessed by the Resource Recovery Corporation by one dollar for each vehicle depositing solid waste at the central landfill. The additional fees would be transferred to the Town of Johnston to provide for educational improvements. Corporations

S-564 RESOURCE RECOVERY CORPORATION (Polisena & Iglioizzi) This act would require the Resource Recovery Corporation to turn over any surplus realized in any given year to the host community of each landfill. Corporations

S-565 MUNICIPAL TIPPING FEES (Polisena & Iglioizzi) This act would increase the municipal tipping fees assessed by the Resource Recovery Corporation by fifty cents (\$.50) per ton. The additional fees would be transferred

to the Town of Johnston to provide for and promote technological improvements and technology education. Corporations

S-604 CLEAN WATER (Sosnowski & Kells) This act would include dam safety and dam maintenance projects within the definitions of "local governmental unit" and "water pollution abatement project". Finance

S-668 EARTH REMOVAL (Ruggerio & Others) This act would create the Rhode Island Earth Removal and Reclamation Act to help implement and maintain a uniform, effective and comprehensive earth removal and reclamation policy. Corporations

S-907 UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (Sosnowski) This act would allow town officials to designate an enforcing officer to enforce the provisions of Title 46, Chapter 12.1 "Underground Storage Tanks", and would allow cities and towns to impose record-keeping and reporting requirements on fuel suppliers. Corporations

FINANCE AND TAXATION

H-6177 SCHOOL HOUSING AID (SanBento & Others) This act would increase the amount of the state's reimbursement to public school districts for school housing aid by 10%. Finance

H-6214 HOTEL TAX (Shavers & Others) This act provides for distribution of 1% of the 6% hotel tax to the communities where the hotels which generated the tax are located. Finance

H-6218 PAYMENT IN LIEU (Shavers & Others) This act would increase the contribution for properties eligible under the Pilot Program to 35% of all tax that would normally be collected. Finance

H-6249 PAYMENT IN LIEU-STATE PARKS (Anguilla & Others) This act would provide for an appropriation to cities and towns with state parks located therein to reimburse them for the cost of services provided. Finance

S-519 PAYMENT IN LIEU-AIRPORT (Revens & Others) This act provides for an alternative computation for state education aid funding, and adds any airport serving over 1,000,000 passengers a year to the General Assembly appropriations in lieu of property tax program. Finance

S-521 STATE-OWNED REAL ESTATE (Revens & Others) This act would provide that state-owned real estate which is leased to a private individual or company would not be exempt from taxation by the municipality in which the real

estate is located, including property owned by public and quasi-public corporations. Finance

S-584 ASSET VERIFICATION (DaPonte) This act would allow tax assessors of the cities and towns to conduct asset verifications of personal property of businesses with depreciable assets of a certain threshold to ensure that proper reporting and valuation is taking place. The act provides for appeal rights from such asset verifications, and prevents the disclosure of financial information gained as a result of these asset verifications. Corporations

S-611 PARKING FACILITY TAX (Donelan) This act imposes a 50 cent tax on each motor vehicle which parks in a public or private parking facility, and mandates the payment of the funds collected to the city/town in which the facility is located. Finance

S-637 STATE AID TO LIBRARIES (Igliozi & Others) This act would provide \$5,000,000 in one-time funding to public libraries for library programs, asset protection or repairs. Finance

S-643 HOTEL TAX (Cicilline & Others) This act reduces the hotel tax to 5% and provides for distribution of the proceeds. Finance

S-670 NONUTILIZATION TAX (Coderre) This act would amend the Real Estate Nonutilization Act to provide for implementing ordinances and exemptions. Corporations

S-679 PAYMENT IN LIEU-CIVIC CENTERS (Ruggerio & Others) This act would add any municipally-owned civic center to the list of properties eligible for state aid because of a loss of tax revenue. Finance

S-733 PAYMENT IN LIEU-CIVIC CENTERS (Ruggerio & Others) This act would mandate that any amount appropriated by the General Assembly for a municipally-owned civic center be utilized only for that center's operations and capital improvements. Finance

S-741 PENSION FUND REFINANCING BONDS (Ruggerio & Others) This act allows municipalities to issue pension fund refinancing bonds to fund unfunded pension liability. Corporations

S-742 ASSESSMENT OF BACK TAXES (Ruggerio & Others) This act would allow a municipality to recalculate back municipal taxes that have been erroneously or illegally computed on real estate located within the municipality. Corporations

S-745 **PAYMENT IN LIEU** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would gradually increase the percent of the state appropriations in lieu of taxes, starting with 35% on July 1, 2001, and finally reaching 50% as of July 1, 2005. Finance

S-746 **STATE AID – MUNICIPAL PARKS** (Perry & Others) This act would require state aid to cities and towns if they can document usage of open spaces within their limits of more than 50% by nonresidents. Finance

S-754 **TAX SALES** (Ruggerio & Goodwin) This act would give municipalities lien creditor status as defined in Section 6A-9-301(3). Judiciary

S-755 **EXCISE TAX** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would provide for the administrator of the Division of Motor Vehicles to suspend or revoke an individual's motor vehicle registration for failure to pay excise tax to a municipality. Judiciary

S-789 **SCHOOL AID – SPECIAL STUDENTS** (Felag & Others) This act provides for a 50% reimbursement by the State of Rhode Island to school districts above the average statewide cost per pupil for special education students. Only expenditures for medically fragile and out-of-district placement students are eligible for reimbursement. Finance

S-799 **HOTEL TAX** (McCaffrey & Paiva Weed) This act would divide the hotel tax in equal portions between the state and the municipality in which the hotel is located. Finance

S-838 **TAX EXEMPTION – DISABLED** (Igliozzi & Others) This tax would enable cities and towns to freeze the tax rates on real and personal property of any head of a household who is less than 100% disabled and unable to work as of the date of disability. Corporations

S-867 **HOTEL TAX** (Caprio & Others) This act would make changes to the hotel tax. Finance

LABOR RELATIONS

S-689 **LABOR CONTROVERSIES** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would decrease the time period within which notice of a motion to vacate, modify or correct an award must be labor served upon an adverse party or his attorney after the award is filed or delivered. Labor

S-691 **ARBITRATION OF LABOR CONTROVERSIES** (Ruggerio & Others) This act adds the provision that, when a motion to stay an arbitrator's award is denied, the moving party shall pay costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing party. Labor

S-748 FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION (Goodwin & Others) This act would expand the definition of "firefighter" for purposes of the Firefighters' Arbitration Act. Labor

S-749 FIREFIGHTERS' ARBITRATION (Goodwin & Ruggerio) This act would expand the definition of "firefighter" for purposes of the Firefighters' Arbitration Act. Labor

LIQUOR CONTROL AND LICENSES

H-6192 CLASS A LICENSE (Lanzi & Bierman) This act would allow the sale of prepackaged hot stuffed cherry peppers by Class A licensed retailers at liquor stores. Special Legislation

S-544 CLASS A LICENSES (Celona – By Request) This act would provide that a holder of a Class A retail liquor license shall be permitted to conduct, without charge on the premises of the licensee, sample wine tastings of wines available at the licensee's outlets for prospective customers. Special Legislation

S-545 SALES ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS (Celona) This act would allow Class A license holders to open on the Sunday before Thanksgiving and each subsequent Sunday through the Sunday before New Year's. Special Legislation

S-765 CLASS A LICENSES (Celona – By Request) This act would provide that a holder of Class A retail liquor license will be permitted to conduct, without charge on the premises of the licensee, sample wine tastings of wines available at the licensee's outlet for prospective customers. Special Legislation

PLANNING AND ZONING

H-6109 ZONING ORDINANCES (Story & Others) This act would allow zoning ordinances to provide for the application and issuance of dimensional variances in conjunction with a special use. Corporations

H-6208 JOINT MUNICIPAL PLANNING (Carter & Others) This act would allow town officials to serve on joint municipal planning commissions. Corporations

S-714 ZONING ORDINANCES (Coderre) This act would allow pharmacies to have a drive-thru window for prescription fulfillment to serve the elderly, ill and infirm; provided the drive-thru window and related structure comply

with the dimensional and safety requirements of the municipality in which they are located. Corporations

S-719 ZONING ORDINANCES (Kells & Others) This act would waive local zoning requirements for community residences, under certain specifically defined circumstances. This act would further require that community transitional residences register with the Secretary of State. Corporations

S-724 PUBLIC AND QUASI-PUBLIC CORPORATIONS (Sheehan & Others) This act would provide that public and quasi-public corporations would be subject to the provisions of local subdivision and zoning regulations. Corporations

S-824 ZONING ORDINANCES – VARIANCES (Fogarty) This act would change the standard that a zoning board will use in deciding whether to grant a dimensional variance. Judiciary

S-837 JOINT MUNICIPAL PLANNING (Algieri) This act would allow town officials to serve on joint municipal planning commissions. Corporations

S-857 ENERGY FACILITY SITING (Fogarty & Others) This act would require the siting board to adhere to the findings of local boards regarding zoning and land use issues unless there is a compelling state interest to overrule said boards. Corporations

S-863 ZONING VARIANCES (Fogarty & Others) This act would allow a zoning board of review to grant a dimensional variance in cases where the use is permitted by special use permit. Corporations

PUBLIC SAFETY – POLICE AND FIRE

H-6132 POLICE INCENTIVE PAY (Iwuc – By Request) This act would remove the requirement that officers who receive a pay incentive for Master's studies must also have an undergraduate degree in law enforcement. Corporations

H-6133 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Palangio & Others) This act would establish a pulmonary and coronary disease disability for firefighters who, because of pulmonary or coronary disease, are unable to perform their duties. Corporations

H-6138 POLICE ACCREDITATION (Fox & Others) This act would create the Rhode Island Police Accreditation Advisory Commission which would develop and implement a law enforcement agency accreditation program. Judiciary

H-6139 CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY (Fox & Others) This act would create the Criminal Justice Academy Advisory Commission. Judiciary

H-6143 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Palangio & Others) This act would provide benefits to firefighters for various forms of cancer and respiratory diseases. Labor

H-6144 RELIEF OF FIREFIGHTERS (Palangio & Others) This act would add coronary or pulmonary illnesses to the list of illnesses presumed to be disabling to firefighters. Labor

H-6163 SUBCONTRACTING OF FIRE, POLICE AND RESCUE SERVICES (Henseler & Others) This act would establish regulations relative to the wages paid to private employees working as subcontractors for any municipality. Corporations

H-6198 USE OF FORCE (Iwuc & Others) This act would amend the law regarding the use of force by a police officer. Judiciary

H-6263 CRUELTY TO POLICE ANIMALS (Palumbo) This act would amend and expand the provisions pertaining to cruelty to police animals. Judiciary

H-6270 FIRE APPARATUS (Barr & Coderre) This act would exempt fire apparatus from the provisions of 31-25 governing the size, weight and load limitations of vehicles. Corporations

H-6292 FIREARM INJURIES (Cicilline & Dennigan) This act would create a "Firearm Injury Statistics Task Force" to help collect, analyze and evaluate firearm injuries. H.E.W.

S-503 SEXUAL OFFENDER REGISTRATION (Celona) This act would amend Megan's Law in requiring offenders to register with police departments within 24 hours of relocation. This act would also place time limits upon the notification and classification process. Judiciary

S-518 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Cicilline & Others) This act would establish a pulmonary and coronary disease disability for firefighters who, because of pulmonary or coronary disease, are unable to perform their duties. Finance

S-526 FIREFIGHTERS' ANNUITIES TO DEPENDENTS (Tassoni & Others) This act would increase deceased firefighters' annuities. Finance

S-528 RELIEF OF FIREFIGHTERS (Damiani & Others) This act would add coronary or pulmonary illnesses to the list of illnesses presumed to be disabling to firefighters. Finance

S-534 **CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK** (Kells & Others) This act would require prospective employees over the age of 18 in facilities, programs or agencies licensed, funded and/or operated by the Department of Mental Health, Retardation and Hospitals to undergo a national criminal records check. H.E.W.

S-535 **LAW ENFORCEMENT CANDIDATES** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would mandate that special or reserve police officer candidates take psychological aptitude tests. H.E.W.

S-567 **MANDATORY TESTING** (Bates) This act would allow health care providers to disclose blood test results of a person who was involved in an accident, whose blood level exceeds the amount specified in Section 31-27-2. Judiciary

S-620 **WEAPONS** (Breene & Others) This act would provide that a person possessing a license or permit for a concealed pistol or revolver issued by another state which grants Rhode Island residents reciprocity with respect to concealed pistol permits, would be considered to have a valid concealed pistol permit in Rhode Island. Judiciary

S-622 **JUVENILE RECORDS** (Walsh & Others) This act would provide that the juvenile record of any person adjudicated delinquent of a serious violent felony shall be made available to school departments, probation departments, attorney general, state and local police departments, law enforcement agencies outside of Rhode Island, D.C.Y.F., M.H.R.H., and other social service agencies. Judiciary

S-642 **CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK** (Izzo & Others) This act would amend various provisions of the general laws pertaining to criminal records checks in order to correlate the language, and to require the check to conform to the applicable federal standards. Finance

S-665 **OPERATION OF EMERGENCY VEHICLES** (Ruggerio & Others) This act would include returning from the emergency situation as part of the operation of emergency vehicles which exempts the operator from insurance rate hikes in the event of an accident. Corporations

S-685 **LIE DETECTOR TESTS** (Blais) This act would exclude law enforcement agencies from the prohibition against the use of polygraph examinations for applicants for law enforcement officer positions. Labor

S-688 SUBCONTRACTING OF FIRE, POLICE AND RESCUE SERVICES (Ruggerio & Others) This act would require that private agreements between municipalities and private employers to provide personnel to perform fire, police or rescue services contain a stipulation requiring prescribed rates of wages as determined by the Director of the Department of Labor. Labor

S-707 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK (Kells & Tassoni) This act requires the Department of Children, Youth, and Families to reimburse local police departments for costs reasonably incurred in conducting criminal background checks for youth service and child care workers. Finance

S-709 FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS – DEATH BENEFIT (Gallo & Others) This act would provide for a payment of a one-time \$100,000 benefit to the family of a firefighter, police officer, correctional officer, and certain other persons who are killed or die from injuries sustained in the line of duty. Finance

S-717 NFPA 1500 (Gallo & Others) This act would impose a fine for failure to comply with the requirement that fire departments implement NFPA 1500. Corporations

S-729 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK (Kells & Others) This act would provide criminal records checks for child care workers to be provided at the cost of same. Corporations

S-760 BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS (Cicilline & Others) This act would provide benefits to firefighters for various forms of cancer and respiratory diseases. Finance

S-761 FIRE SAFETY CODE (Goodwin & Others) This act would define the maximum occupancy of any apartment unit, house and public space. Corporations

S-767 CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY (Cicilline & Others) This act would create the Criminal Justice Academy Advisory Commission. Judiciary

S-768 POLICE ACCREDITATION (Cicilline & Others) This act would create an advisory commission on police accreditation. Judiciary

S-770 WEAPONS (Perry & Others) This act would amend various statutory provisions concerning weapons. Judiciary

S-772 AUTOMOBILE THEFT (Bates) This act would provide that all funds that are collected through the insurance surcharges for the support of the Office of Automobile Theft and Insurance Fraud are available without separate

appropriation, and provides for a mechanism for the proceeds of unidentifiable recovered stolen vehicles or vehicles with altered VIN numbers to be shared between the recovering law enforcement agency and the general fund in the same manner as other law enforcement forfeitures. Corporations

S-773 ASSAULT OF OTHER OFFICIALS (McCaffrey & Issa) This act would add harbor masters or their assistants under the definition of "other officials", declaring that an assault on such persons would constitute a felony. Judiciary

S-781 NOTIFICATION TO POLICE (McCaffrey & Issa) This act would require the Director of the Department of Mental Health to notify local police and state police of the discharge of clients held at the Eleanor Slater Hospital Adult Psychiatric Unit for certain specified crimes. Judiciary

S-784 NOTARIES PUBLIC (McCaffrey & Issa) This act would permit police officers to have notarial powers and exempt them from payment of the commission fee as provided in Section 42-30-5. Judiciary

S-835 BALLISTIC IDENTIFICATION DATABANK (Perry & Others) This act would create a new chapter in the general laws establishing a ballistic identification databank within the state crime lab pursuant to rules, regulations, and procedures promulgated by the state police. Judiciary

S-854 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Montalbano & Others) This act would require a police department, the attorney general's office, and the court to keep the records associated with a domestic violence crime for 3 years, even after acquittal, dismissal or other exoneration, and would eliminate the requirement of a 3-year filing. Judiciary

S-862 PAYMENTS TO FIRE COMPANIES (Walsh & Others) This act would provide reimbursement from the state for volunteer fire companies that respond to emergencies which occur on a limited access highway. Finance

RETIREMENT

H-6245 GOVERNMENT INTEGRITY ACT (D. Cicilline) This act would create a civil penalty for accepting prohibited campaign contributions, more specifically define "campaign expenditure", make corrections to the Rhode Island Public Employee Pension Revocation and Reduction Act, and adds city and town retirement ordinances to those covered by the Act. Judiciary

S-517 PENSIONS FOR EDUCATORS (Gallo) This act would change the word “compact” to “chapter” and changes various definitions. Finance

S-522 ACCIDENTAL DISABILITY (Tassoni & Others) This act would change the application process for disability benefits for police and fire personnel. Finance

S-602 OPTIONAL RETIREMENT FOR POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS (Ruggerio & Others) This act would amend the formula for determining a police officer’s or firefighter’s final compensation for retirement purposes. Finance

S-710 POST RETIREMENT EMPLOYMENT (Gallo & Others) This act would allow retired teachers and retired state and municipal workers to teach driver-education on a part-time basis without forfeiture or reduction of retirement benefits. Finance

S-720 SUBSTITUTE TEACHING (Gallo & Others) This act would allow retired teachers to work as substitute teachers without reducing their pay provided they meet certain guidelines. Finance

TOWN AND CITY CLERKS

H-6162 FISHING AND HUNTING LICENSE FEES (Naughton & Rabideau) This act would provide for increases in certain license fees, provide for a pheasant and wild turkey permit, and eliminate the combined waterfowl/hunting license. Environment and Energy

S-505 SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGES (Parella) This act would allow former probate judges to perform marriage ceremonies. Judiciary

S-728 RECORDING OF INSTRUMENTS (Kells & Others) This act increases the fees for recording land evidence records. Corporations

S-747 TAX LIEN ON REAL ESTATE (Ruggerio & Goodwin) This act would increase the time for the termination of a tax lien on real estate from 3 years to 6 years if the real estate has been alienated. Judiciary

S-782 GUARDIANSHIP (McCaffrey & Issa) This act would require a petition for appointment of a limited guardian or guardian alleging a lack of decision making ability to be recorded in the records of land evidence. Judiciary

S-785 PUBLIC RECORDS (Graziano & Others) This act would clarify which governmental records are public or confidential. Judiciary

MISCELLANEOUS

H-6166 REGULATION OF BOATS (Long & Others) This act would increase the required amount of insurance coverage for individuals and/or entities holding motorboat races, and require such coverage to include a provision for indemnity to state and local municipalities for any liability arising from such motorboat race. It would also provide that making a false distress or hoax call would be a crime. Corporations

H-6171 INSPECTOR GENERAL (Pisaturo & Others) This act would establish the Office of Inspector General as an independent administrative agency charged with the purpose of preventing and detecting fraud, waste and abuse, and mismanagement in the expenditure of public funds. Finance

H-6277 MILL BUILDING REHABILITATION (Lowe & Carroll) This act would extend the building certification process to December 1, 2002, and extend the termination date of the chapter of the general laws relating to mill building and economic revitalization to August 8, 2005. Finance

H-6288 MUNICIPAL PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS (Lowe) This act would require public utility companies to pay for the relocation of any of their facilities located in public ways when necessitated by municipal public works projects. Corporations

S-562 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (Ruggerio & Others) This act would prohibit the erection of telecommunications towers in playgrounds. Corporations

S-726 CONSTRUCTION OF PORT FACILITIES (Sheehan) This act would require that the construction of a container port facility in the State of Rhode Island shall be approved by both the voters of the city/town where the port is located, and the electors of the state by a referendum. Judiciary

S-731 BLIGHTED AREA TAX CREDIT (Caprio & Others) This act would provide an income tax credit for business use within a designated project area. Finance

S-737 TOWN HIGHWAYS (Roney & Others) This act would require utility companies to advertise when they will trench a municipal road or sidewalk so as to put other companies on notice. Corporations

S-738 ALTERATION OF ROADWAYS (Roney & Others) This act allows cities and towns to adopt ordinances and regulations imposing fees on public utilities and contractors who alter roadways. Fees would include charges relative to administrative, engineering and inspection costs. Corporations

S-739 LEAD PAINT ACTIONS (Goodwin & Others) This act provides a statute of limitations in which certain entities may bring a law suit for damages involving lead paint. Judiciary

S-829 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONES (Alves) This act would establish exemption from or stabilization of sales and use taxes for municipal economic development zones. Finance

S-860 CONTRACTORS' BONDS (Irons & Montalbano) This act would hold liable any state, city/town agency which fails to require contractors to file labor and materials bonds. Corporations

S-890 OWNER-CONTROLLED INSURANCE PROGRAM
(Goodwin) This act would enable any public agency to utilize an owner-controlled insurance program for a public works project where the hard construction cost is in excess of \$5,000,000. Finance

S-896 MILL BUILDING REHABILITATION (Fogarty & Others) This act would extend the building certification process to December 1, 2002, and the termination date of the chapter of the general laws relating to mill building and economic revitalization to August 8, 2005. Corporations

S-897 MUNICIPAL PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS (Fogarty & Others)
This act would require public utility companies to pay for the relocation of any of their facilities located in public ways when necessitated by municipal public works projects. Corporations